



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 6, 2009

Media Contact:

Cameron Hardy, DOE, (509) 376-5365, Cameron_M_Hardy@rl.gov

DOE Slates 60 Hanford Public Tours in 2009

Online registration begins March 30

RICHLAND, WA -- The Department of Energy will offer a record 60 public tours of the Hanford Site in southeast Washington State this year between April and September. Online registration for the tours opens March 30.

Hanford's Public Tour Program began in 2004 with four tours. Because of the popularity of the visits, DOE's Richland Operations Office has increased the number of tours to 60 this year. There were 48 tours held in 2008.

"There's been tremendous demand for Hanford site tours. We added more dates this year in order to better serve the public. Last year we had visitors from all over the nation -- 34 states in all," said Dave Brockman, manager of DOE's Richland Operations Office. **"In 2009 we expect to see 2,500 people come to Hanford to learn more about our history and see first-hand our cleanup progress."**

The dates for the 2009 Hanford Public Tour Program, will be: April 21, 22; May 6, 7, 19, 20; June 3, 4, 16, 17; July 15, 16, 28, 29; August 12, 13, 25, 26; September 15, 16.

The three daily bus tours will leave the [Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center](#) at 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m. on each of the tour dates. Visitors will be driven from Richland, Wash., through the Hanford Site on a route that will include the historic B Reactor, the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility, the Waste Treatment Plant, and a groundwater remediation project. In addition, participants will see the historic Hanford and White Bluffs town sites, the reactors along the river, active burial ground remediation, tank farms, and other projects. A tour guide will provide commentary along the route regarding Hanford's past, present, and future activities.

Each of the five-hour tours, which are free of charge, will begin and end at the HAMMER facility, located at 2890 Horn Rapids Road in Richland. Visitors must sign up in advance of the bus tour at (<http://www.hanford.gov>) -- click on "Site Tours" to access the tour information. The direct link to the registration form can be found at: [Hanford Public Tour Registration](#) (<http://www5.hanford.gov/publictours>).

Tour requests will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning on March 30. After all available tour slots have been filled, interested participants are encouraged to check the tour web site for available slots, as registered participants may cancel up until 72 hours before a tour.

Tour participants must be U.S. citizens, at least 18 years old, and able to show valid photo identification on the day of the tour. The tour will include a security check before entering the Hanford Site. A list of prohibited articles is located at: [Hanford Site Tours -- Prohibited Articles](#). For more information on Hanford tours, visit the Department of Energy's Hanford tour web page at: [Hanford Site Tours -- Public Road Tours](#).

DOE federal offices and contractors support the tours by providing tour guides and logistics during the year.

Please note that no cameras or cell phones are allowed on tours, with the exception of pre-arranged media tours.

###

RL-09-0009